

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
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P R 041140Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 385
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
CINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 5829

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, MARR, GR, TU, US
SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS COMMENTS ON GREEK AND TURKISH DEFENSE
COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

REF: ANKARA 5739 (DTG 011335Z AUG 77)

1. THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE PLAY IN TURKISH PRESS ON U.S.-GREEK
DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) SINCE REFTEL REPORT. HOW-
EVER, MASS CIRCULATION DAILY "GUNAYDIN" AUGUST 4 CARRIES
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REPORT FROM ATHENS THAT GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF HAS
SAID THAT GOG WOULD GIVE UP \$700 MILLION U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE
IF CONGRESS REJECTS U.S.-TURKISH DCA. AVEROFF WAS QUOTED AS
FOLLOWS: "THE AGREEMENT WE SIGNED WITH THE U.S. REGARDING
THE FOUR INSTALLATIONS IS INDEPENDENT OF THE \$700 MILLION
AID. WE DEMANDED THIS AID IN CASE THE AGREEMENT THE U.S.
SIGNED WITH TURKEY ABOUT THE BASES (IN TURKEY) COMES INTO

FORCE. IF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS TURNS DOWN THE DCA WITH TURKEY, WE MAY NOT ASK FOR THE \$700 MILLION, EVEN THOUGH WE OPEN THE AMERICAN BASES (IN GREECE)." "GUNAYDIN" ARTICLE NOTED THAT THE GREEKS ARE MAKING "EXTENSIVE EFFORTS" TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. BUT THIS IMPROVEMENT IS NOT PROCEEDING AS RAPIDLY AS THE GOG WISHES BECAUSE OF THE POPULAR MOOD IN GREECE.

2. MODERATE DAILY "MILLIYET" AUGUST 4 CARRIES ANALYSIS BY WELL-KNOWN CORRESPONDENT SAMI KOHEN WHICH ENDORSES WHAT HE CONSIDERS IS CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S STRATEGY OF SUBMITTING BOTH DCA TO CONGRESS AT THE SAME TIME. KOHEN SAYS THAT GOG CALCULATED "PROFIT" IN PHASING INITIALLING OF U.S.-GREEK DCA WITH UPSWING OF INTERNAL UNREST IN TURKEY IN AFTERMATH OF GENERAL ELECTIONS, BUT AGREEMENT ON DCA SHOWS THAT ATHENS HAS BEGUN ITS RETURN TO THE SIDE OF NATO AND THE U.S. ON TIMING OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON DCA, KOHEN OBSERVES THAT IF AGREEMENTS ARE SUBMITTED SEPARATELY, ONE OF THE TWO AGREEMENTS WILL HAVE SOME PRIORITY, AND HE HOPES THAT USG WILL NOT PERMIT "IMBALANCE" BY GIVING PRIORITY TO GREEK DCA. KOHEN SAYS THAT, CONSIDERING "POLARIZATION" IN CONGRESS OVER CYPRUS, IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR PRESIDENT CARTER TO SUBMIT BOTH AGREEMENTS TO CONGRESS AFTER RECESS IN SEPTEMBER. NEVERTHELESS, KOHEN CONCLUDES, GREEK LOBBY IN CONGRESS MAY WORK FOR DEFEAT OF BOTH DCA ON BASIS THAT GREECE WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE U.S. AID, WHILE TURKEY WILL NOT.
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3. COMMENT: "GUNAYDIN" QUOTE ATTRIBUTED TO GREEK DEFMIN AVEROFF PER PARA 1 ABOVE ESSENTIALLY IS SAME AS THAT CONTAINED IN MARY ANNE WEAVER'S JULY 31 "WASHINGTON POST" ARTICLE (USIA WIRELESS FILE, AUGUST 1). SINCE TURKS WILL SEE IT AS CONFIRMING THEIR SUSPICIONS OF GREEK MOTIVES, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION, IF AVAILABLE, OF AVEROFF'S ALLEGED STATEMENT.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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